

Five rules to follow to ensure safety when riding a bicycle.

1 In principle, cyclists should ride on the street and use sidewalks only in exceptional cases.

Bicycles are classified as vehicles, so as a general rule, cyclists should use the street.

Therefore, cyclists should use the designated bicycle paths when they are available.

- [Exceptions]
- When there is a “Bicycles and Pedestrians Only” signpost, cyclists can ride on sidewalk.
 - Children under 13, adults 70 and over, and people with physical disabilities are permitted to ride on the sidewalk.
 - When cyclists have no choice to ride on the sidewalk obviously (e.g. road works are going on, or many cars are parked along by the sidewalk etc.), they are allowed to ride on the sidewalk.

[Penalties] Violators of the law are to face a maximum of 3 months imprisonment or a fine of up to 50000 yen.



2 Cyclists should ride on the left side of the street

Only the left side of the street should be used by cyclists.

[Penalties] Violators of the law are to face a maximum of 3 months imprisonment or a fine of up to 50000 yen.

3 Cyclists must reduce speed on sidewalks and give pedestrians the right of way

When passing pedestrians on sidewalks, cyclists should reduce speed enough to enable a sudden stop. Cyclists should stop riding if there is a risk of obstructing passing pedestrians on sidewalk.

[Penalties] Violators of the law are to face a fine of up to 20000 yen or penalties.

4 Cyclists must obey safety rules

■Cycling after drinking alcohol is strictly prohibited. ■Riding double is prohibited. ■Riding side by side is prohibited. ■Cyclists are prohibited to use umbrellas or to talk on mobile phones while riding. ■Cyclists must use bicycle light at night. ■Cyclists must obey traffic lights at intersections. ■Cyclists must check for safety after coming to a full stop.

Note: Riding double is prohibited except when you have a ride child under the age of 6 on your back.

5 Children must wear a bicycle helmet

Parents and guardians must ensure that children wear a bicycle helmet when a child is in the children's seat of a bicycle or a child rides a bicycle.



**Bicycle
Insurance**

You are recommended to take out bicycle insurance against an unforeseen accident.

The rules for bicycles travelling were changed.

These rules took effect on December 1, 2013.

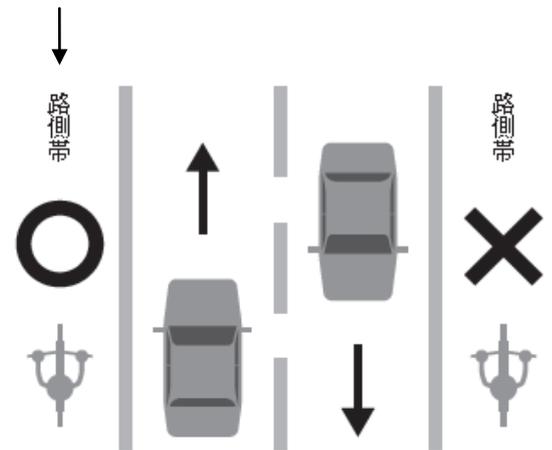
1. Cyclists must keep to the left in the road side zone (*rosokutai*).

'*Rosokutai*' is the road side zone separated by the white line. To ensure a safe passage to pedestrians and cyclists, it is offered to the road where there is no sidewalk. People must ride bicycles on the left in this road side zone (*rosokutai*).

Penalties

Violators of the law are to face a maximum of 3 months imprisonment or a fine of up to 50000 yen.

Rosokutai (the road side zone)



2. Police officers are allowed to inspect bicycles with defects.

Police officers are allowed to inspect bicycles when they find a bicycle having no legality brake. They also allowed to prohibit the riding of illegally-modified bicycles and to order emergency maintenance of bicycles for road safety.

Penalties

Violators of the law are to face a fine of up to 50000 yen.



Riding brakeless bicycles are prohibited.